

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (New) An atomizer nozzle for a fuel, comprising:

a nozzle body including spray-discharge orifices for discharging into a metering space and including at least one metering aperture, wherein:

the spray-discharge orifices are situated, with a radial directional component with respect to a center axis of the nozzle body, at elevation steps, and

each elevation step includes at least one of the spray-discharge orifices; and
at least one nozzle body insert including at least one flow-through opening and being situated in the nozzle body at least one of in front of a first of the elevation steps in a direction of fuel flow and between the elevation steps.

15. (New) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein:

the atomizer nozzle is for charging a chemical reformer for obtaining hydrogen.

16. (New) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein:

the nozzle body includes a hollow cylinder.

17. (New) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein:

the nozzle body includes a gas supply port situated in the nozzle body between the first of the elevation steps in the direction of fuel flow and the at least one metering aperture.

18. (New) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein:

downstream of a last of the elevation steps in the direction of fuel flow, at least one additional spray-discharge orifice is situated with an axial directional component with respect to the center axis of the nozzle body.

19. (New) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein:

the at least one nozzle body insert is at least one of pressed and welded to the nozzle body in a hydraulically leak-proof manner.

20. (New) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein:
the at least one nozzle body insert is laser welded to the nozzle body in a hydraulically leak-proof manner.
21. (New) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein:
a center axis of the at least one flow-through opening of the at least one nozzle body insert runs parallel to the center axis of the nozzle body.
22. (New) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein:
the at least one nozzle body insert has a rectangular cross-section.
23. (New) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein:
the at least one nozzle body insert is concavely retracted from the at least one flow-through opening toward the nozzle body against the direction of fuel flow.
24. (New) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein:
the at least one nozzle body insert is concavely retracted from the at least one flow-through opening toward the nozzle body in the direction of fuel flow.
25. (New) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein:
a cross-section of the at least one flow-through opening is one of rectangular and trapezoidal.
26. (New) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein:
the at least one flow-through opening has at least two uniform cross-sections of different size.
27. (New) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein:
the at least one flow-through opening has at least two uniform cross-sections of different size corresponding to a stepped bore hole.
28. (New) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein:
the nozzle body includes at least one section of reduced wall thickness in an axial profile thereof.
29. (New) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 28, wherein:
the at least one section of reduced wall thickness runs in an area of an elevation step.